

Message Text

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60

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

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R 201425Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1704

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN

USMISSION USNATO

DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 1680

BEIRUT POUCH USINT BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP PFOR CY XF

SUBJ: MAKARIOS TRIPS TO ARAB STATES

REF: FBIS TA 191907Z MAY NOTAL

1. GOC ANNOUNCED MAY 19 THAT ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS WILL MAKE TWO WHIRLWIND TRIPS TO ARAB WORLD. MAKARIOS LEAVES MAY 22 TO VISIT

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BAHRAIN (22-23); QATAR (24); UNITED ARAB EMIRATES (25); OMAN (26);

KUWAIT (27); RETURNING CYPRUS MAY 28. IN SECOND HALF OF JUNE, ARCHBISHOP WILL VISIT EGYPT, SYRIA, LEBANON, IRAQ, LIBYA, "AND POSSIBLY OTHER ARAB STATES."

2. IN CONVERSATION WITH CHARGE MAY 20, FORMIN DIRGEN PELAGHIAS DESCRIBED MAKARIOS' VISITS AS PART OF GOC CAMPAIGN TO ENLIST ACTIVE SUPPORT OF ARAB WORLD FOR GREEK CYPRIOT CAUSE. PELAGHIAS SAID MAY 22-28 GULF SIETES TRIP HAS DOUBLE AIM OF ALLOWING MAKARIOS TO EXPLAIN GOC POSITION IN PERSON AND TO LAY GROUNDWORK FOR AGREEMENTS ON ECONOMIC RELATIONS. CYPRUS ALREADY HAS 10,000 TECHNICIANS WORKING IN GULF STATES. MAKARIOS WISHES TO EXPAND AND "REGULARIZE" THIS TREND. HE ALSO WISHES TO STIMULATE ARAB INVESTMENT IN PRIVATE BUSINESS AND STATE VENTURES IN CYPRUS, INCLUDING LOANS OR DEVELOPMENT PROJECT SUPPORT BY GOVERNMENTS.

3. SECOND MIDDLE EAST SWING IN JUNE WILL INVOLVE THE MORE INFLUENTIAL ARAB STATES, AND WILL BE IN GREATER DEPTH (TWO DAYS IN EACH). PELAGHIAS EXPECTS GREATER POLITICAL SPINOFF TO COMPLEMENT ECONOMIC-BUSINESS ASPECT. GOC IS AWARE OF GOT'S UNHAPPINESS OVER CYPRIOT "OPENING" TO ARAB STATES BUT BELIEVES THERE IS NO ALTERNATIVE GIVEN TURKISH "INTRANSIGENCE" ON NEGOTIATING A CYPRUS SOLUTION. IN PELAGHIAS' WORDS, "IF TURKS THINK WE'RE GOING TO ACCEPT THEIR SOLUTION WITHOUT OUR MAKING DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVES OF THIS SORT, THEY'RE MISTAKEN." HE SAID MAKARIOS VIEWS REALISTICALLY QUESTION OF HOW MUCH OBVIOUS POLITICAL SUPPORT ARABS WOULD BE WILLING TO OFFER GREEK CYPRIOTS, AND IS THEREFORE UNDERTAKING TRIPS CAUTIOUSLY AND WITH MINIMUM FANFARE.

4. FOR ABU DHABI, DOHA, KUWAIT, MUSCAT, AND MANAMA: WOULD APPRECIATE WHATEVER INFORMATION YOU CAN PROVIDE ON ARCHBISHOP'S VISIT.
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